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Easter.

The celebration of this Christian festival of Easter, or of the Resurrection of Jesus, once confined to the Episcopal and Roman Catholic Churches, now extends to practically every Christian denomination, though formerly, by some of them at least, it was looked upon as a semi-pagan superstition and abominable.

This contemporary extension of the observance of Easter has been coincident with growing indifference of the outside Churches to many of the distinctive features of their doctrinal system, of which the current agitation in the Presbyterian Church for the revision of the Westminster Confession is a notable symptom. Having lost rigidity of doctrinal conviction, they are the more disposed to the gratification of religious sentiment purely in devotional services. Incidentally there has been developed a single regard for the simple teachings and the example of the personality of JESUS. Dr. HILLIS, for instance, expressed this tendency when he said substantially that CHRIST'S words and career on earth are more to him than all the doctrines of theology; and Dr. LYMAN ABBOTT, who brushes away the old orthodox views of the Bible so completely as the chaff of superstition, would save himself from the accusation of downright infidelity, and from consequent expulsion from the ranks degree of Bachelor of Arts, of Philosophy of Christians, by extolling likewise the personal character of Jesus. That is, in this new departure the Teacher is honored solely, and not at all the system elaborated

by PAUL from the teachings of CHRIST. Accordingly we hear now from such quarters more of Jesus than we do of theology and systems of doctrine; but when we go to the foundation of their preaching we find that it is ethical and not religious. Their admiration is of the sublimity of the moral example of Jusus, and in kind it does not vary essentially from the Chinaman's regard for the precepts and personal character of Confucius. It does not involve necessarily any faith in Christ as a Divine Being, but is entirely consistent with the Unitarian conception of Jesus as simply the highest expression of "that divine humanity which is the birthright and promised destiny of all souls." This contemporary tendency to the exaltation of JESUS as a mere teacher and exemplar, of which we are speaking, is therefore essentially and distinctively Unitarian. It goes frequently with rejection of the miracles of Scripture, without which, of course, there is no support for the dogmas of the Incarnation and the Resurrection.

It also has in it the germ of a consequence, as we have before pointed out, which may ation it assumes. By treating Jesus imply as an ethical teacher it opens up his social and other doctrine to criticism on its merits purely, for it deprives him of all title to Divine authority and hence to religious faith and worship. The Rev. Mr. SHELDON belongs, unconsciously, to this school. He holds up to men the ethical example of CHRIST and he would follow exactly "In His Steps," as of course he could not assume to do if he looked on Jesus as a Being of a Divine perfection impossible to humanity.

act, practical imitation of the conduct of JESUS and such precise obedience to His ethical commands? is a question men will be sure to ask. It would, unquestionably, involve a radical change in all conduct and would revolutionize civilization. It would produce a social transformation more complete than that desired by the most extreme Socialist. Incidentally such an attempt, If successful, would be subversive of the whole social organization and of all existing human institutions, the Church among the rest. Meantime there would arise a discussion of the soundness of the Christian be new to the world since the time Christianity first provoked as the most pestilent pagan Rome, tolerant as Rome was of mere differences of religion.

This modern effort to separate CHRIST from the system of Christian theology, built up by the Church on His teachings and from faith in his Divinity and miraculous Incarnation, and to follow Him as an othical teacher simply, is therefore distinetly irreligious, as Christian theology regards religion. It is as possible to the downright infidel, the verlest agnostic, as It is to the man who imagines that in making it he is demonstrating most convincingly that he is a veritable Christian bellever. It deprives this festival of Easter of its whole significance, for it does not imply, nor does it require faith in the Resurrection or in any miraculous and supernatural quality pertaining to Jesus.

The Consular Reports.

Mr. GEORGE F. PARKER, for some time United States Consul at Birmingham, England, says in the Atlantic Monthly for April that our Government publication called "Consular Reports" threatens to become "an intolerable nuisance" and that in the twenty-two years of its existence "it would be difficult to recall one report of really undoubted economic value." Mr. PARKER indulges in other misrepresentations of the reports, such as that no one goes to them for information about the matters to which

they relate, for there are better sources. The truth is that any one who has the "Consular Reports" in his library has a publication that is well worth keeping, for Philosophy and Doctor of Science. In order | sidered slang? It can, we don't think. It contains a vast amount of authoritative information on commercial geography, commerce and the materials that enter into trade, all well indexed and easily accessible. The "Consular Reports" has will be granted only to those who have been If we are going to kick against "artificial been tested in many ways that demonstrate resident students, pursuing courses of ice," "artificial heat," "artificial light," we its helpfulness and high standard of accuracy. It contains trustworthy facts of value to merchants and manufacturers, collected abroad at small expense to our Government and relating to the commercial and economic conditions in countries with which we | at least three years' standing. are competing in foreign trade, or in the

accurate data for the compilation of maps showing the distribution of products and industries in the Latin American republics than any other publication.

The publication may be greatly improved by more rigorous editing that shall reject contributions of little worth and eliminate as far as possible all statements of doubtful authenticity. There are few writings, however, relating to statistical and economic topics that are not marred by such blemishes. The fact has been widely recognized and published in Great Britain and Germany that our consular reports are of far more practical value to merchants and manufacturers than the reports which their own Consuls supply. There is a large and growing demand for the publication among the business classes whom it endeavors to assist. It is quoted, not only in the daily press, but also in special trade and scientific journals, and thus all the best information it contains is widely circulated in this country. No other publication gives our people so much information about the resources of foreign lands, their commercial necessities and their business and industrial methods.

The New York University. It is well known that, of recent years, the New York University has undergone remarkable expansion and is beginning to fulfil the comprehensive aims which were formulated by its founders. This institution now includes a college proper and a school of applied science on University Heights; a graduate school, a law school and a school of pedagogy on Washington Square; a medical school on First avenue and East Twenty-sixth street and a veterinary college on West Fifty-fourth street. The bulk of the collection of books known as the University Library is placed on University Heights, but there are two branches at Washington Square. The members of the teaching staff now number 186, and the students, 1,581, not including "auditors," or "non-matriculants," of whom there are more than 700 in attendance upon the various schools of the university. The college proper is devoted to arts and

to pure science: its graduates receive the

or of Science. Candidates for admission to this department may present themselves for examination in one of three categories which correspond to the three sections of the freshman class. The categories differ mainly in this respect, that, in the first, both Latin and Greek must be offered, as well as English, the history of the United States, arithmetic, algebra, plane geometry and physics; in the second an applicant must offer Latin or Greek, and German or French, together with the other requirements just enumerated; in the third category one need not present either of the classical languages, but one must be duly prepared in both German and French, and in addition to the other requirements one must offer solid geometry and trigonometry. Once admitted to the freshman class a student must enter that section of the class for which he has passed the examination. All the studies in each section are prescribed. Section A requires both Greek and Latin. Section B substitutes for Greek either German or French. Section C supersedes both the ancient languages by German and French and, in addition, requires subjects introductory to the scientific curricula. At the dent must enter one of nine parallel groups be radically destructive of the very vener- arranged for the last three years of under- bronze medals, a special prize of \$200 graduate study. These are numbered and for the best thesis upon any subnamed as follows: First, classical: second modern languages; third, Semitie; fourth, English-classical; fifth, historical-political; sixth, philosophical-historical; seventh, natural science; eighth, exact science; ninth, medical preparatory. A student who has completed section A of the freshman studies becomes a candidate for the degree of Bachelor of Arts upon completion of group I., H., III., IV., V. or VI.; or for the degree of Bachelor of Science upon satisfactory completion of groups VII. to IX., provided he has also taken the drawing and chemistry What would be the result of such exrequired in section Cof the freshman year. A student who has completed section B of the freshman studies becomes a candidate for the degree of Bachelor of Philosophy upon the completion of group II. III., IV., V. or VI.; and for the degree of Bachelor of Science upon the completion of group VII., VIII. or IX., provided he has also taken the drawing and chemistry required in section C. A student who has completed section C of the freshman studies becomes a candidate for the degree of Bachelor of Philosophy upon completion of group II., V. or VI.; or for the degree of philosophy, and the character of it would Bachelor of Science upon completion of group VII., VIII. or IX. In other words, at the New York University, a young man communism, the violent opposition of cannot obtain an A. B. degree without proving his possession of a knowledge of the

> After the academical year 1899-1900 the work done at University Heights in applied science will be performed under the "University School of Applied Science." The but we feel that he is great." student completing a course will receive the degree of Bachelor of Science in civil engineering, in mechanical engineering or in applied chemistry. After the approval of Sciences, however barren it may seem to the prescribed thesis the Bachelor of Science in civil engineering will receive the degree of Civil Engineer, while the Bachelor of Science in mechanical engineering will receive that of Mechanical Engineer. Applicants for admission to the school of applied science are examined in French, German, English, the history of the United States and of England, arithmetic, algebra, plane and solid geometry, plane trigonometry and physics. There are three courses, according as a student aims at proficiency in civil engineering, in mechanical engineering or in chemical engineering. In the autumn of the current year, an additional course will be opened, that, namely, of industrial chemistry.

Latin and Greek languages and literature.

On the other hand, he can secure the degree

of Bachelor of Science, or even of Bachelor

of Philosophy, without any knowledge of

either of those languages.

The graduate school of the New York University includes all courses of instruction and examinations offered by candidates for the degree of Master of Arts, Master of Philosophy, Master of Science, Doctor of to be eligible to any one of these degrees the candidates must have received the standing, and admission to examinations | skill and labor by means of an ice machine of at least two years' standing, and the ral and the artificial production of ice why

We pass to the law and medical schools of

colleges in good standing; or who present State of New York, or a certificate acceptable to said Regents in lieu thereof; or, lastly, those who pass the examinations for entrance to the sophomore class in the academic department of the university. The degree of Bachelor of Laws is conferred upon candidates who pursue the required three years' course and pass the necessary examination. The degree of Master of Laws is conferred upon candidates who, in addition, complete the prescribed courses of graduate studies, which include Roman law, advanced constitutional law and international law, in addition to other subjects. We note, in the next place, that for young men who purpose, before the beginning of the study of medicine, to complete a regular college course, the New York University college of arts and science at University Heights has made the following provision, to wit: The student, after completing his freshman year in the college proper, may take therein the "medical preparatory course," which will qualify him to enter most advantageously the college of medicine. After pursuing this course throughout the sophomore and junior years he may elect to take in place of the senior year at University Heights the first year in the medical college at First avenue and East Twenty-sixth street, provided he shall give three hours a week to college work in arts and science outside of medicine. This plan shortens the combined college and medical courses from eight years to seven years. No entrance examinations are conducted at this medical school, but all students who matriculate with the intention of becoming candidates for the degree of Doctor of Medicine must conform to the rules and regulations of the New York State Board of Regents, which were established by laws of the State of New York to take effect March 21, 1896, and which will be found set forth on pages 353, 358 of the catalogue before us.

We pass over the school of pedagogy and

the veterinary college and proceed to mark the provisions made for the assistance of worthy but needy students. We observe, first, that the university college offers each year twelve or more preparatory school scholarships covering the tuition fees of four years, and, consequently, equivalent to \$400 each. These scholarships are bestowed each year by the principals of preparatory schools upon scholars certified by them as standing in the uppermost third of a class of not less than five members prepared for college. The university college also offers each year ten scholarships awarded to students of the freshman class making the best record at a supplementary examination held in October. These scholarships cover the tuition fees for four years. The university has, moreover, in its gift a few scholarships founded in 1822 which may be given as beneficiary scholarships in specially deserving cases. There are seven competitive scholarships, founded by Miss HELEN M. GOULD, the income of which, intended to be \$300, is paid semi-annually for four years to the student appointed. There are two other endowed scholarships, the income of which is about \$250 per annum. There are also a number of prizes ranging in value from \$50 to \$100. Of fellowships there are three, valued at about \$300 apiece per annum, obtainable by students completing the course in arts. beginning of the sophomore year the stu- To students in the medical school there i offered, in addition to gold, silver and ject embodying the results of original research. In the afternoon division of the law school three prizes of \$100, \$60 and \$40, respectively, are distributed among such three students of the senior class as shall pass the best examination of that year. The Elliott F. Shepard Scholarship and three university prize scholarships. yielding \$100 each in tuition, are allotted at the end of the junior year to the four students most successful in the examinations. In the evening division of the law school two prizes of \$75 and \$50, respectively, are awarded to such two students of each class as shall pass the best examina-

tion of their year. To those who recall the condition of the New York University in 1865 the development of the institution is one of the most remarkable educational phenomena of our time and country.

Two Questions of Language.

Booms depart, possessions vanish, party platforms change and fashions hold fluctuating seat, but the interest in English grammar continues to be the subject of undying attraction to thousands. Why, no man knoweth. There seem to be more fascinating and fruitful branches of study. and he or she must have been unusual in youth who didn't regard grammar as the abomination of abominations and dryer than the bosom of the Sahara or Prof. BILLY SUMNER'S "Life of ANDREW JACKSON." The just explanation of the seemingly curious charm of grammar can only be had from analogy. "We know," said RUFUS CHOATE, speaking of old Chief Justice LEMUEL SHAW of Massachusetts," we know that he is ugly

So let it be with grammar, which should be venerated as a member of the medieval educational Trust known as the Seven some or most of us. Yet we love it, we love it, for it brings to us many learned and studious inquirers whom it is an honor to meet. Here is a letter from one of them:

"TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sit: The write otices you use the expressions 'I don't think' and 'Artificial Ice.' May I ask why this is correct? If I say 'I don't think I will go to the theatre to-night, why am I not contradicting myself? For I do think Manufactured fee is certainly the real thing. Why should it be called artificial, then? I should appre ciate this information. "NRW YORK April 10."

Poor innecent "den't think." What has it done? What crime against the sacred laws of syntax has it been guilty of? Surely "I don't think I shall go to the theatre" is a good phrase and true. Along comes some unknown genius and twists the expression and stamps it with an excellent irony and makes it strong and new. Call it slang, if you choose, but how can a piece of good English, unchanged in application, be con-

We can see no objection that is not purely finical to "artificial ice." It differentiates degree of Bachelor from a college in good from ordinary ice the ice made by human study in the graduate school, for at least | shall have to waste time in round-about one year. We should add that the degree expressions. Having a perfectly legitimate of Master is given to none save Bachelors | means of distinguishing between the natudegree of Doctor to none save Bachelors of should we give it up? The use of "artitificial" in the sense mentioned is common and registered without objection by newer markets which we are beginning to the university. To the law school only the dictionaries. But let no man use it enter. It contains, for instance, more those are admitted who are graduates of against his conscience and no man force it

upon his brothers. If we should have a the academic diploma of the Regents of the glass of seltzer with our correspondent next summer, we should insist upon saying "ice-machine-made ice;" a beautiful and terse expression!

Baseball.

The circular just issued by the League Inspector of Umpires and Players, Mr. John B. DAY, enjoining good conduct among the players on the ball field, starts speculation. Here is a portion of it:

'It is generally admitted that the conduct of some players has been largely responsible for the great ack of interest taken in the game by its patrons in recent seasons. The League fully realizes this fact, and is determined to correct the evil.

"Players must be gentlemanly in their conduct and anguage, and must absolutely refrain from useless kicking and fault finding with the umpire, even when they think him wrong."

What is the meaning of this? Has the League Inspector of Umpires, despairing of being backed by the responsible authorities of the League in his manifest desire to suppress rowdyism, appealed to the players in the hope that they may put rowdyism down from motives of mere selfrespect? Or has he been assured by the League that the vicious practices of the past, to which he well calls attention, are to be abolished, and that he is looked to for

the enforcement of the new policy? Upon either supposition there is a passage in this circular which requires comment. "The players," said Mr. DAY, "must

refrain from useless kicking." The way to stop rowdyism is to have the players "refrain from kicking." Mr. DAY might as well have told them to refrain from excessive kicking, or unmannerly kicking, or kicking rough, smooth, gilt edged or sky blue. One rule of the baseball League forbids kicking, that is to say, under any circumstances, and kicking i stamped as invariably useless by another rule which forbids the umpire to reverse a decision once given.

So what sort of baseball are we to have this summer? Decent or rowdy?

Kicking is rowdyism; it is against the first principles of sport. The way to stop it is to stop it; which can be done by requiring all men who hear the umpire say 'Out!" to turn their faces to the bench at once and go there straight, and in silence.

How Many?

There is something paradoxical, and possibly capable of explanation, in the support given to BRYAN by Democratic newspapers, regular or bolter.

For example, our esteemed contemporary the Memphis Commercial-Appeal, regular four years ago and now, finds fault with BEYAN's "personal views on the expansion question." It "sees no efficacy in his solution of the trust problem." We have a strong impression also that the Commercial-Appeal thinks the silver theory played out. On the three prime issues, therefore, advanced by Bryanism, namely, anti-expansion, anti-trust and free silver, this stalwart Democratic journal of Tennessee takes the opposing view; but it remains a Democrat.

The Louisville Courier-Journal, which manfully bolted BRYAN four years ago, is ardently for expansion, vigorously and contemptuously against free silver, and doubtful or indifferent as to the Bryan prescription for trusts. But it's for BRYAN.

How many private citizens are for BRYAN on the patent back-action Commercial-Appeal-Courier-Journal platform? It might be well for some anti-Republican-expansionist-gold-Democrats to have a straw vote

One of the speakers at the convention of the New York State Association of Elecution ists asserted that Browning "never pretended to write literature that should be a substitute for a cigar or a game of billiards." We don't know that Browning was in the custom of pretending. He left that to his more fanatical

To believe that it necessarily requires profound study to appreciate a piece of great literature is an error. It needs no hosts of earned commenters or mighty effort of mental concentration to appreciate in DANTE the story of FRANCESCA DA RIMINI, or that of UgoLino; and almost any man can lie on hi back and smoke a cigar and read SHAKE-SPEARE with pleasure.

The obscurities, seeming subtleties and farfetched learning are the worst, not the best, parts of BROWNING, just as the astronomical circumlocutions and scholastic hairsplittings are the most tedious parts of the "Divine Comedy." however interesting they may be to students of the Middle Ages. A poet may be as tedious as the Hon. ALADDIN ATRINSON and as obscure as a raffrond time table and not come within speaking distance of greatness, and so far as any otherwise great writer is now hard to understand, in so far is he or Time

The art of seeming deep by wrapping one's self up in a cloudy speech has never been difficult. No doubt Mr. BROWNING, over his decanter, chuckled vastly at the raptures of some of his worshippers.

The Hon. JOHN LAWRENCE SULLIVAN always eager to do good, got into a cab the other day and started for the Criminal Courts Building, where he trusted to find an Assistant District Attorney who would help him get pardon for a Boston man of less renown than Mr. SULLIVAN, but necessarily eminent because he was a Bostonian before fate summoned him from the three hills to the solitude that the prison grants. Mr. SULLIVAN chose for himself a favorable position in a liquor saloon where he summoned an Assistant District Attorney to meet him. Curiously enough, the man of law refused to enter a saloon. He said that he never entered saloons lest he should compromise the dignity of the District Attornev's office. But as a saloon is the capitol and headquarters of the most eminent sedentary philosopher of New York, Mr. SULLIVAN himself, why may it not be the appropriate occasional residence of the majesty of the law?

Already the straw vote and the straw boom walk happily hand in hand along the aisles of April.

The decision of the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court in this department handed down on Thursday in the case of Officer JOHN A. DONNELLY against the Board of Police Commissioners directs attention to an inadvisable feature of our municipal government.

Any member of the Police or Fire Department when dismissed from the force by the Police or Fire Commissioners has the right of appeal to the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court. The Appellate Division, when these cases come before it, reviews not merely the technical legal circumstances of the dismissal. but examines again, as a new question, the equity, propriety and general advisability of the action taken by the Commissioners.

It is clear that this procedure or the existnce of this right on the part of the accuse officers, in effect erects the members of the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court into another and a higher Board of Police and Fire Commissioners. It takes away from the present Boards of Police and Fire Commissioners a very large share of the responsibility for the discipline of the forces under their control and puts such responsibility upon the members of

the Appellate Division. Policeman DONNELLY was dismissed from

and of having said to his superior officer. "You lie!" DONNELLY admitted that he said the words, and declared that he lost his temper under a false accusation. Three members of the Appellate Division held that he was properly dismissed for his conduct, while two others maintained that such conduct was no sufficient to justify his dismissal, and they voted for his reinstatement. A change in the opinion of one of the members of the court

ould have reinstated DONNELLY. All this is wrong. The courts should have full power to review proceedings of this nature for legal errors, such as the improper admission of testimony, or where gross and palpable injustice had been done. But the judgment of the Police and Fire Commissioners upon questions of fact, as in cases like the foregoing, should be final.

Col. BRYAN is getting all the delegates but the Admiral's boomers will console him They will tell him that the Bryan men are Dewey men in disguise.

EASTER.

Out of the fruitless places, the hopeless home of the dead:

Out of the sullen silence and the sleep that all men dread.

From the lands of night the Lord of Light up lifts His glorious head!

The waning world is quickened with the seed of endless Spring. The souls that lay in darkness awake to the

light and sing. and Sin and Shame walk whole in the flame of

the love of the living King!

Information for Voyagers to Europe. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Perhaps no provisions of the Dingley Tariff have been more fully discussed than those applying to the personal baggage of tourists arriving from abroad, and yet the law and regulations are

understood by very few. That provision of the

Dingley Tariff, applying to personal baggage, That in case of residents of the United States re turning from abroad, all wearing apparel and other personal effects taken by them out of the United States to foreign countries shall be admitted free o duty, without regard to their value, upon their iden ity being established, under appropriate rules and regulations to be prescribed by the Secretary of the Treasury, but no more than \$100 in value of articles purchased abroad by such residents of the United

Recently I submitted to the Treasury Department certain recommendations regarding the circulation of information to all tourists which is now under consideration by the De partment. I have received so many letters and inquiries regarding the recommendation made that I believe it will be of interest to your readers to know what has been recommended and is under consideration. My suggestion is as

States shall be admitted free of duty upon their re

follows: That a circular describing fully the provisions of he personal baggage law he issued for the informa-tion of all passengers going abroad: that this circular of information and instruction he accompanied by ank declaration such as the passenger is compell sign upon his arrival here; that this circular of to sign upon his arrival here; that this circular of information and instruction and declaration be placed
in scaled envelopes, and that the masters of the
various steamships engaged in transatiantic trade
be requested to place a copy of this circular, instructions and declaration in the hands of each passenger
soon after saiting from abroad. This plan would give
the passenger the opportunity of careful preparation
of his declaration on the way over; would explain
fully the provisions of the law and the regulations
governing the same; would remove many of the objections to the law and would be of great service to
the customs officials in a consistent administration of
the law.

If I remember correctly, a plan similar to this was in effect during a previous Administration, except that the circular of instruction and declaration was handed, by the inspectors, to passengers when they arrived at Quarantine. I have thought for a long time that some such plan as this ought to be adopted. It is especially important that it should be adopted at the heighning of this season when is especially important that it should be adopted at the beginning of this season, when more people are going abroad, perhaps, that in any year in the history of the nation. I believe it very important that we should be equipped so as to avoid delays and give the Americans who visit the Continent and the Paris Exposition every courtesy upon their NEW YORK, April 12.

The Worth Monument.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Incidentilly to the Sherman monument discussion it is interesting to observe the air of supreme contempt with which the ruthless architect judges all monuments of any kind in our city which already hold some site his covetous hands might otherwise be laid on

Among these the Worth monument opposite Madison square has been singled out. The simple, dignified granite obelisk, with its inscriptions telling the story of heroic achievements, and marking the place where the old soldier of many battles in the Mexican War lies buried, offends such ambition, perhaps because of its modest simplicity. Mere historical interest has no significance for such

ical interest has no significance for such a mind. The desecration of a grave is beneath the consideration of the enlightened fin de siecle artistic person.

This calls to mind that formerly four ornamental lanterns, which were part of the original plan and design, surrounded the Worth monument. What has become of them? Did they obstruct the plans of the artistic car enters, who put up scaffoldings and seats for the review of parades and street shows? No doubt that same spirit would wish the Worth monument removed, for actually on such occasions it is built over to furnish additional seats. Do these carpenters and the ruthless architect go arm in arm in this matter? Par nobile fratrum!

The lamps of the original design should be restored to this monument, and does not a de-cent respect for the resting place of New York's hero demand that the place of this grave should be kept free from the carpenter's en-cronchment as well as from the destruction of his more artistic brothers? NEW YORK, April 9.

A Suggestion for the Easter Season.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Str: As our householders decorate their houses at Easter with flowers which are very perishable, why would it not be more to their advantage to plant trees which are enduring; which enhance the value of their property and which they can enjoy for many years to come-while the tree costs but little if any more than the

flowers?
The Tree Planting Association has given careful attention to the effect of asphalt pavement on the different trees it recommends for street planting and finds that moisture is collected under the asphalt, and that it is favorable to the growth of the Carolina poplar, which certainly thrives in our city streets. It is symmetrical, grows quickly and is now generally recommended by our nurserymen. erally recommended by our nurserymen.
Our association hopes that many residents
will avail themselves of the present season to plant Carolina poplars.
An Offices of the Association.

It Is Now Porto Rico by Law.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: In an Act of Congress temporarily to provide revenues and a civil covernment for Porto Rico and for other purposes recently passed by the United States Senate and House of Representatives and signed yesterday by the President of the United States, the name of a cerain island was officially fixed as Porto Rico. It has been alleged through the agency of certain members of the so-called Board on Geographic Names that President McKinley had Issued his dictum that the name of the Island should be spelled Puerto. So far as I am aware the signing of this bill by him is the first official utterance on the subject. Good-by. Puerto Rico. That word now belongs in the show case with those other venerable mummles Nueva Metico, Nouveau Orleans, &c. GEOGRAPHER. WASHINGTON, April 13.

Cape Cod Ways.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: I must take exception to some of the statements in article in SUN of April 7, entitled "Folks Down Cape Cod Way. The article implies that a man who takes liberties with his neighbor's henroost is considered as good as anybody else here. This I deny. A chicken robber loses his standing in society and it is difficult for him to reason.

inses his standing in society and it is difficult for him to regain it.

Also reference is made to the large size of the drinks taken by Cape Codders. This is a siander. I have never seen more than three quarters of an ordinary tumblerful of whiskey taken at one drink unless the imbiber considered himself very well acquainted with the person offering the treat, when naturally a less modest drink might be taken.

Cape Cod is all right. OCTAVIUS BREWSTER.

CHATHAM, Mass., April 12. the force upon the charge of neglect of duty

Stand the decision of the stand of the stand of the standard o

IN SOUTH AFRICA.

While there is reason to believe that some of the news from the British side regarding the Boer movements in the south of the Free State, especially that based on native reports. is unreliable, there is no doubt that the Boers there are in a critical position and will require all their eleverness to extricate themselves from it. The large body of troops that Lord Roberts is said to have directed to the line between Reddersburg and Wepener threatens effectually to bar their return north by the way they came, and in the absence of definite knowledge of their motive for making their descent, it is difficult to account for it, unless they did it in anticipation of a sympathetic movement in Cape Colony. Events, however. must shortly throw the needed light on the

matter.

A report from Kimberley that a battalion of infantry had been sent there and that guns were being again mounted on the defensive works, somewhat discounts the optimistic tone of recent despatches, and the sending of Gen. Hunter's division, made up of two brigades withdrawn from Gen. Buller's army, to Fourteen Streams, is evidence that the British left is not considered sufficiently secure. No explanation has yet come of the cannonading reported to have been heard in the direction of Buitfontein in the early part of the week, but it was probably connected with the operations of some of Gen. Methuen's reconnoitring parties feeling the country toward Hoopstad, from where a demonstration in the direction of Bioemhof to the northwest on the north side of the Vaal would threaten the rear of the Boer forces lower down the river at Fourteen Streams. Boshof has temporarily been made a base of operations on that side, as it has been placed in charge of Col. Kekewich, lately commandant of Kimberley, and been strongly intrenched. The return of Gen. Botha from Natal leads one to expect some early move ment on the part of the Boers in the north of

the Free State which will probably coincide with the fighting daily anticipated in the south. Meantime the outlook in the southwestern parts of the Cape Colony is said to be very unertain. The Dutch Afrikanders are known to be more disaffected than ever before owing to the highhanded measures taken by order of the High Commissioner, Sir Alfred Milner, against many prominent men on mere suspicion or the denunciations of native servants. A rising in the districts particularized. Caledon and Swellendam, would endanger the communications with Kimberley, as they are mountainous, pretty thickly populated, and would afford convenient shelter to the insurgents in case of revolt. Should a rising take place it is not likely it would be confined to those particular localities, but would spread all through the districts inhabited by Afrikanders of Dutch origin, and so give a most serious turn to the whole situation in South Africa. It is not surprising that under the circumstance grave apprehensions exist both at Cape Town and in London on the subject.

TO TEST FRANCHISE TAX LAW. A Case Brought by Counsel for the American Cable and Telegraph Company.

ALBANY, April 14.-The first step to test the constitutionality of the Special Franchise Tax law was taken to-day before Supreme Court Justice Chester, when Edmund L. Cole, as counsel for American Cable and Telegraph (Postal) Company, secured orders for a review of the action of the State Tax Commission in assessing and valuing the special franchises of the company in the cities of Buffalo, Rochester, Ithaca, Gloversville and Jamestown. The commission is directed to make return of all papers, statements, objections and evidence served upon, filed with or given before the board, and the dates of the assessment, and full grounds for the valuation and the assessments referred to.

referred to.

The grounds upon which the applications for the writs of certiorari were based are that the franchises were granted and enjoyed from the United States Government—that is, were received from the United States Government by virtue of what is known as the Post Road act, which gives to telegraph companies who comply with the privileges of the act the right to use the public highways of the United States; that the Franchise act is so vague and indefinite that it cannot be construed, upheld or applied by the taxing authorities or the courts; that no power has been given by statute courts; that no power has been given by statute r as real property to assess the franchise or franchises of easements in the highways, streets or public places: that the extent of four-fifths of or public places; that the extent of four-fifths of the franchises to use highways or public places for telegraph purposes are the franchises of interstate and foreign commerce; that the valuation of assessments is unconstitutional, having been made by the State Tax Commission without authority therefor and in violation of section 2, article X. of the State Constitution. The merits of the case will be argued upon the return of the writs after motion, which will be some time in May.

Travels of the Jigger.

The very small species of the flea, commonly known as the jigger, whose native home is tropical and subtropical America, set out in 1872 to circumnavigate the world and has now half completed his journey. His arrival in India and Madagascar is almost simultaneously reported. On his conquering way he has badly frightened many barbarous tribes by his propensity to bore through the skin and find lodgment under it, and many villages and sometimes whole districts were abandoned by the natives during his journey across Africa.

In September, 1872, a sailing vessel from Brazil dumped a quantity of sand ballast on the beach at Ambriz a little south of the Congo This event has historic importance from the fact that the jigger crossed the ocean in this sand and it is believed to have been his first introduction to foreign territory. His rate of advance across Africa depended upon the means of transportation at hand, for the jigger will not hop when he may ride. It was thirteen years before he struck the caravan route to Stanley Pool, and then he journeyed quickly and comfortably with the porters in the freight service to that starting point of the upper Congo steamers which carried him half way across Africa. Twenty years after his arrival in Africa the jigger appeared on the shores of Victoria Nyanza and six years later he was hopping along the sands of Zanzibar Island. The jigger was thus established in 1893 at the busy mart whence many vessels sail for the East Indies and Oceanica. It was predicted that he would soon invade India, and sure enough his arrival at Bombay, whither he had been brought by coolies returning from Africa, is now reported. Le Tour du Monde says he may be expected in French Indo-China at any time and that he will evidently invade the whole of southern Asia, and letters from Nossi Bé, in porthwest Madagascar, report his advent there and on the adjoining islands, where he is flourishing and multiplying in the sandy soil. We may next expect to hear of this persever.

ing and successful traveller among the Pacific islands, and all regions in or near the tropies seem destined to make his acquaintance.

Mrs. Littlehale 100 Years Old.

TYNGSBORO, Mass., April 14.-Mrs. Harriet Butterfield Littlehale, a life-long resident of this town, was 100 years old yesterday and gave a birthday party in honor of the event. People drove from miles around to extend their congratulations, and she received many gifts, among them a hundred large peppermints, for which Mrs. Littlebale has an inherited New England weakness. She received ited New England weakness. She received callers at the home of her son, Peter Little-hale, surrounded by her descendants, reaching to the fifth generation. She has fourteen grandchildren, thirty-seven great-grandchildren, and tweive great-great-grandchildren, Mrs. Littlehale is the granddaughter of one of the patriots who rallied to his country's call at Concord and Lexington. Her husband died forty-four years ago. She is able to read without the aid of glasses.

Hools, of Hanging Dog.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Allow me to present for your consideration the Hon. Hoola Boom of Hanging Dog, N. C. It was announced in a political convention the other day that "Hoola Boom, though a strong Republican, will support the Constitutional Amendment. E. W. ROSENTHAL. NEW BERNE, N. C., April 12.

Way Up. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Is Unah Bust (barber) of this village entitled to a place in your list of immortals. J. M. KAY.

JUDGE BROWN ON THE GRIGGS BILL.

He Considers the Provisions for Removal of Indicted Men Too Sweeping. Judge Addison Brown of the United States

District Court gave his view yesterday on the bill which Attorney General Griggs sent on Friday to the chairman of the Judiciary Committee of both houses of Congress. The bill is practically a sequel of the decision handed down by Judge Brown a week or so ago refusing to certify a warrant of removal for Beniamin D. Greene and the Gaynors, indicted by a Federal Grand Jury in Georgia for complicity in the frauds of Oberlin M. Carter, formerly a captain of engineers in the United States Army. If the bill becomes a law it will have the effect of compelling the removal without examination of persons indicted for

have the effect of compelling the removal without examination of persons indicted for offences against the United States from the place of arrest to the district where the indictment is drawn. Judge Brown said:

"I do not care to eater into a detailed discussion of the merits of the bill. I think, however, that it is too broad and sweeping. The law as explained in the recent case of Gaynor and in that of Dana, five years ago, is in conformity with that which was laid down by Mr. Justice Curtis nearly fifty years ago. So far as I know, the Government has never failed to secure the removal of accused persons under the law as it stands without serious difficulty. In the Gaynor case the Government attempted to remove the accused without any competent proof of criminality. If the people of the country desire that citizens should be removed from their homes to distant parts of the country to stand trial on the mere finding of a distant Grand Jury, acting in secret and not making known any circumstance showing probable cause that an offence has been committed, a change must be made in the existing law, and the passage of a bill like this is the way to make it. I should, however, regard so sweeping a change as inexpedient, unreasonable and oppressive, and in practice unnecessary.

"This bill goes far beyond the provision for interstate extradition, which is limited to fugitives from justice. The depositions of witnesses taken on a preliminary hearing before a Magistrate may be used in the trial, in case the accused is committed, provided the witnesses at the time of the trial are not within the State; so that the alleged hardship of producing witnesses twice over is much less than fancied."

Washington, April 14.—The bill which Attorney-General Griggs sent to the chairman

than fancied."

WASEINGTON. April 14.—The bill which Attorney-General Griggs sent to the chairman of the House and Senate Judiciary committees yesterday, providing for the removals of persons indicted for offences against the United States from the places of arrest to the places where-the offences were committed, is expected, if passed, to lead speedily to the trial of the persons alleged to have been in conspiracy with Capt. Carter in the harbor frauda at Savannah, Ga. Mr. Griggs said to-day that while he disagreed with Judge Brown in his construction of the New York code by which it was held that Benjamin D. Green, John E. Williams and Edward H. Gaynor could not be removed from New York to Savannah for construction of the New York code by which it was held that Benjamin D. Green, John E. Williams and Edward H. Gaynor could not be removed from New York to Savannah for trial, he did not care to fight the New York law in attempting to bring these men to trial. It seemed best to him to recommend a change in the Federal statutes, so as to remove all necessity for such a contest of the New York code, he may case which may arise. If the construction recently placed on the New York code, he said, should hold, all that a man guilty of a crime against the Federal laws need to do is to go to New York and the bringing of him to justice may be delayed for a long time. At the same time, the Attorney-General repeated his belief that such a construction of the New York law as was made in the Gaynor case could not be sustained shoul! the matter be fought out. By the provisions of the bill proposed by Mr. Griggs, a person deemed in the judgment of the Judge, Justice or Commissioner, to be indictable in any State under the Federal statutes, shall be removed by the United States Marshal to the district where the offence was committed. It is learned that the Government has accumulated, a large amount of evidence against the New York men concerned in the accumulated a large amount of evidence against the New York men concerned in the harbor project at Savannah, and they would be ndicted immediately after the passage of the

SNOW PAY HELD UP.

Comptroller Says Many Loads Were Charged For as Two Loads Each. Comptroller Coler announced yesterday that he was investigating the cost of snow removal last winter, and that he would not pay a balance of \$93,287.59 certified by the Street Cleaning Commissioner to be due to the Uvalde Asphalt Company until he had obtained a satisfactory explanation of the issuing of extra checks to teamsters. Mr. Coler had a number of inspectors from his department watching the snow removals and they obtained evidence that in many cases two checks were given for one load of snow instead of one. Some teamsters got

514 or \$15 a day for doing the same work that the city's teamsters got \$5 for, and Mr. Coler believes that the result of his investigation will lead the city to abandon the contract syswhole work done by its own employees.

The last snowfall was followed by a thaw and a freeze, which transformed the snow into fee that was twice the weight of the same bulk of snow and was very hard to handle. At that time it was said that because of the hard work the inspectors of the Department of Street Cleaning gave out two checks instead of one for each load. When the teamsters got to the dumps they exchanged these checks for a brass check, which was cashed by the company. The money the Comptroller is holding up has already been paid out by the company. President Rokeby said yesterday that the company was forced to pay the checks, and that it was not responsible if the city's employees overcharged it.

The city paid the contractor 54 cents for each load of snow removed, and the contractor paid 35 cents to the teamsters. The total amount of the snow removal bills for the two big storms during the winter was \$271,605,60. Of this \$178,398,01 has been paid.

Last week Comptroller Coler sent a letter to Commissioner Nagle asking him what the number of extra tickets issued was. Supp. Bradish, to whom the letter was reterred by the Commissioner, wrote to the Comptroller that their was no way to tell how many were issued. The Comptroller has his inspectors at work theorems within a few days. The last snowfall was followed by a thaw and

PAN-AMERICAN CONGRESS.

The Latin-American Republics Allowed to Arrange the Programme.

WASHINGTON, April 14.- Representatives of the Latin-American republics met at the bureau of American Republics to day and agreed that the Executive Committee of the Bureau should draw up a rough plan for the proposed Congress of the American republics, including the United States, in accordance with the suggestion of President McRinley in his last annual message. In order to leave the Latin-American representatives to act without the interference of this Government, Secretary Hay and W. W. Rock, ill. License of the Bureau, did not attend, elthough privileges to do so as officers of the bureau. Invitations to to do so as officers of the bureau. Invitations to participate in the proposed congress have already been sent out by the State Department to Mexico and the Central American and South American countries, and granifying responses have been received from some of them. The present plan is to let the Latin-American republics decide on the topics to be considered, which gives them a large share in the arrangement of the congress, a change from the plan pursued in calling the first Pan-American conference, when the programme was arranged entirely by the United States. The tentative plan to be arranged by the Executive Committee will be submitted by each of the foreign representatives to his Government, and much will depend on the answers received. In the absence of Secretary Hay, Senor Calvo, the Minister of Costa Rico, presided. The others who attended the meeting were the diplomatic representatives of Mexico, Hayd, Venezuela, Uruguay, Colombia, Brazil, Chih and Guatemala.

Philippine Baseball.

From the Manila Tribune. A clean, interesting, and at times very exciting game of baseball took place last Sunday afternoon on the racetrack grounds at Santamesa between the crack team of H Battery of the Sixth Artillery and a team composed of the best men in the Third Artillery and the Hospital Corps stationed at that place. The Santa-

pital Corps stationed at that place. The Santamesa boys showed up so much better in practice that it looked before the game began as if they would have an easy time with their Vanila opponents. It proved to be anything but what is known as a "cinch." If Battery won by a secreof 10 to 4.

The game was replete with good butting, fielding and brilliant running. A catch of a foul fly by Levshon of the Sixth team set the crowd veiling. The feature of the game was the hattery work of Met abe and Weiser heart, who worked together like a well-offed manning. They have a bright future. The fact the system of the tames and the first hattery were made in the whole game shows that it was of a high or left. After the replication to the santamental provided by the losing team and thoroughly enough themselves. The Sixth hoys tave nothing but traise for the shortsmanship and courtesy of the defeated team and look forward to a return game, when the Fantamesa boys will be their gasts. tha return game, when the Santamesa boys will be their guests. The following is the bat-ting order of the teams:

Sitth Artiflery, Levshon, Left Fleid, McCabe, Pitcher, Wood, Shortston, Weisenberger, Catcher, Clay First Lose. Arbuckle, Second Base

Arbuckle, Second Haw Helburg, Cather, Rollander, Shortstop Carmel, Right Field, Wheeler, Pitchet, Sloan, First Base, Holman, Third Base, Roberts, Centre Field, Campbell, Left Field Clay, First Base, Ramsey, Third Base, Smith, Right Field, Booth, Second Hale, Murphy Centre Field.

SCORE BY INNINGS.